



THE WORK REQUIREMENT FOR ADULTS AGE 18 THROUGH 49

If you live in Kenosha, Racine or Walworth County, the work requirement rules for adults age 18 through 49 will affect you starting on July 1, 2014 when you renew or apply for FoodShare benefits. If you live outside of Kenosha, Racine or Walworth County, the work requirement rules for adults age 18 through 49 will affect your household starting on April 1, 2015 when you renew or apply for FoodShare benefits.

What is the work requirement for adults ages 18 through 49?

If you are age 18 through 49, with no minor children living in your home, you need to meet the work requirement to keep getting FoodShare benefits unless you are exempt.

There are three ways you can meet the work requirement:

1. Work at least 80 hours each month, or
2. Take part in an allowable work program such as FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET), Wisconsin Works (W-2) or certain programs under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) at least 80 hours each month, or
3. Both work and take part in an allowable work program for a combined total of at least 80 hours each month.

Which adults ages 18 through 49 are exempt from the work requirement?

You may be considered exempt and do not need to meet a work requirement, if you are:

- Living with a child under age 18, even if the child is not related to you,
- Caring for a person who cannot care for himself or herself,
- Caring for a child under age 6 who lives outside your home,
- Physically or mentally unable to work,
- Pregnant,
- Receiving or have applied for unemployment insurance,
- Taking part in an alcohol or other drug abuse (AODA) program, or
- Enrolled in an institution of higher learning at least half-time.

Note: You may need to provide proof if you are exempt.

What if I do not meet my work requirement?

If you do not meet your work requirement, you will only get 3 months of FoodShare benefits in a 36-month (3 year) period. To continue getting FoodShare benefits, you must meet the work requirement, become exempt or wait until your 36-month period has passed.

How do I get help meeting the work requirement?

You will be referred to the FSET program when you renew or apply for FoodShare benefits if you need to meet the work requirement and you are not already participating in a work program or working at least 80 hours each month, or a combination of both.

FSET can help you meet the work requirement. FSET offers free services to build job skills and find employment.

Why do I need to meet a work requirement now?

Since the state and national economy has improved, Wisconsin wants to offer assistance to help adults find and keep good jobs. FSET services have expanded to help adults age 18 through 49 meet the work requirement and individuals interested in building their job skills to take advantage of new work opportunities.

For more information on FoodShare or FSET:

- Go to dhs.wi.gov/foodshare; or
- Contact your [agency](#).

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Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

For information regarding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at 800-221-5689, or follow the link to see a list of all Wisconsin consortiums and tribes contact numbers, go to: dhs.wi.gov/forwardhealth.

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